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**MAY 21 2004**  
**DIRECTOR OFFICE**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**

In re Application of:  
Yoshihito NAKAGAWA et al.  
Application No. 09/915,692  
Filed: July 25, 2001  
For: STORAGE-RELATED ACCOUNTING  
SYSTEM AND METHOD OF THE SAME

**DECISION ON PETITION FOR  
ACCELERATED EXAMINATION  
UNDER M.P.E.P. §708.02(VIII)**

This is a decision on the petition, filed 08 March 2004, requesting the grant of special status based on M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII.

M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII, which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d), states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

(a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i);

(b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;

(c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;

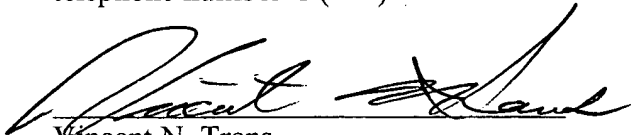
(d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and

(e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR §1.111(b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

Applicant's submission meets all the criteria set out above, accordingly, the Petition is **GRANTED**.

The application file is being forwarded to the Examiner of Record for accelerated examination according to the procedures set forth in M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII.

Any inquiry concerning this decision should be directed to Vincent N. Trans whose telephone number is (703) 305-9750.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent N. Trans", written over a horizontal line.

Vincent N. Trans  
Special Program Examiner  
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